

# HAIR CELL DISORDERS

## Abstract

Ligands which bind to the HER2 and/or HER3 receptors are useful as inner-ear-supporting cell growth factors to enhance proliferation-mediated generation of new hair cells.

1. The present invention relates to a method for enhancing the proliferation of inner-ear supporting cells, and to a method for enhancing the generation of new hair cells. The method involves the use of ligands which bind to the HER2 and/or HER3 receptors. The ligands are useful as inner-ear-supporting cell growth factors to enhance proliferation-mediated generation of new hair cells.